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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ECON OECD PREL CM TW EI SUBJECT: IRISH RESPONSE TO DEMARCHE ON TAIWAN'S

PARTICIPATION IN THE OECD

REF: A. STATE 20058

**1**B. 07 STATE 82462

 $\underline{\mbox{1}}\mbox{1.}$  (SBU) On March 18, Econoff delivered Ref A points to John Rowan, the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs' chief for multilateral economic organizations -- and former Irish Ambassador to the OECD. Rowan said that Ireland shared the U.S. view on the matter and would support our position. He pointed out that the Irish government, like the U.S. government, does not support Taiwan's full membership but that, given its economic stature, it should continue to play a role. He said that the OECD should remain apolitical and if efforts such as China's were successful it would be "harmful to the organization's reputation in the long-run."

**FAUCHER**